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BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of Liberty Utilities (CalPeco Electric) LLC (U933E) for Authority to Among Other Things, Increase Its Authorized Revenues for Electric Service, Update Its Energy Cost Adjustment Clause Billing Factors, Establish Marginal Costs, Allocate Revenues, And Design Rates, as of January 1, 2019.

Application 18-12-001

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING ESTABLISHING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION HEARINGS, NOTICING PROCEEDING TOUR AND UPDATING PROCEEDING SCHEDULE

On December 3, 2018, Liberty Utilities (CalPeco Electric) LLC, (Liberty) filed a general rate case application for the Test Year 2019. On January 25, 2019, a Prehearing Conference was held that included discussions concerning holding a Proceeding Tour of Liberty facilities and several public participation hearings (PPHs) in Liberty's service area.

The assigned Commissioner issued a scoping memorandum and ruling on March 30, 2019 determining, among other things, that a Proceeding Tour and one or more PPHs will be held in Liberty's service territory during the week of July 22-26.

The purpose of the PPHs is to make customers aware of Liberty's proposed revenue and base rate changes, and to solicit comments from Liberty's customers about the impact that the application could have on them.

Remote access will be available for the PPHs; I will provide remote access

information in a subsequent ruling. In addition, the PPHs are of most benefit if customers have ample advance notice of them and if customer participation levels are high. Accordingly, this ruling provides additional guidance to Liberty regarding customer outreach and promotional activities for the PPHs.

The purpose of the Proceeding Tour is to allow the assigned Commissioner, assigned administrative law judge and interested parties the opportunity to see and discuss Liberty facilities and the sites of Liberty's proposed capital improvement projects in order to better understand the basis for Liberty's application. Each party to the proceeding is invited to send one representative to attend the Proceeding Tour, which will occur on Friday, July 26, 2019, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. As a courtesy and to increase the transparency of the tour, Liberty shall file a short report summarizing the highlights of the tour no later than August 5, 2019. Commissioner Guzman Aceves, one or more Advisors to the Commissioner, and I plan to attend the tour.

In an email to the service list of Application 18-12-001 on May 15, 2019, the California Public Advocate's Office requested changes to the proceeding schedule to allow for additional discovery time. This request is reasonable and is granted.

IT IS RULED that:

1. A series of Public Participation Hearings (PPHs) for Application 18-12-001 will be held as follows in the service territory of Liberty Utilities (CalPeco Electric) LLC (Liberty):

Kings Beach: July 24, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.
North Tahoe Event Center- Timberline Suite
8318 North Lake Boulevard,
Kings Beach, CA 96143
Remote Access: TBD

South Lake Tahoe: July 25, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.
South Lake Tahoe City Hall- Council Chambers
1901 Airport Road,
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150
Remote Access: TBD

Truckee: July 26, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.
Truckee Community Recreational Center- Meeting Room
8924 Donner Pass Rd.,
Truckee, CA 96161
Remote Access: TBD

2. If Liberty Utilities (CalPeco Electric) LLC (Liberty) has not already done so, it shall prepare post card, electronic and similar notices informing their customers of the Public Participation Hearings (PPHs) in its service territory. Liberty shall prepare and provide draft notices to the Commission's Public Advisor's Office as soon as possible. The final approved notices shall inform Liberty's customers about the PPHs, the purpose of the PPHs, a summary of the relief that Liberty is requesting in its application, the date, time, and location of the PPHs, and the remote access information.

3. After the Public Advisor's Office approves the draft notice language, Liberty Utilities (CalPeco Electric) LLC (Liberty) shall mail the final notice to its customers at least 15 days in advance of the first Public Participation Hearings. For customers receiving electronic billing, Liberty shall email the final notice at least 15 days in advance of the first PPHs and shall post the final notice on its website.

4. Pursuant to Rule 13.1(c) of the California Public Utility Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, at least seven days prior to the first Public Participation Hearing (PPH), Liberty Utilities (CalPeco Electric) LLC (Liberty) shall cause the approved final notices to be published in one or more newspapers of general circulation in the general service area where the PPHs will be held. Liberty shall also prominently post a final notice of the PPHs in all Liberty offices where customers have the opportunity to speak with customer service representatives.

5. Pursuant to Rule 13.1(c) of the California Public Utility Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, at least seven days prior to the first Public Participation Hearing (PPH), Liberty Utilities (CalPeco Electric) LLC (Liberty) shall take one or more of the following additional steps to notice customers of the PPHs, including:

- a. Providing the company's visually impaired customers with a Braille copy or a large font version of the final notice;
- b. Posting final notice information on libertyutilities.com, and presenting the date, time, and location of each of the three PPHs;
- c. Using social media by posting the final notice on Liberty's Facebook page;
- d. Sending the final notice and contacting the City Managers, City Clerks, and City Councilmembers of the cities where the PPHs are scheduled, as well as other nearby cities;
- e. Sending the final notice and requesting that Liberty's authorized payment agents post notice of the PPHs; and,
- f. Sending the final notice to city halls, libraries, recreation centers, and senior citizen centers and requesting posting.

6. At least five days prior to the first PPH, Liberty Utilities (CalPeco Electric) LLC (Liberty) shall file a letter verifying that it has complied with these customer

notice requirements, which shall state: (a) the date(s) the final notice was sent to customers; (b) the approximate number of customers so notified; (c) the date(s) and locations of publication and posting of the final notice; and, (d) additional information regarding actions taken to ensure customer notification of the PPHs as directed in this ruling.

7. Liberty shall have a customer service representative at each of the PPHs to answer billing questions that individual customers may have and shall have employees present that are knowledgeable about the application.

8. A Proceeding Tour of Liberty Utilities (CalPeco Electric) LLC facilities and proposed capital projects will take place on Friday, July 26, 2019, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. starting and ending at the location indicated below, and with the following agenda:

a. Start and end location:

Liberty Utility Offices
701 National Avenue
Tahoe Vista, California

b. Transportation: Will be provided

c. Agenda:

- Review of proposed projects using Google Earth;
- Brockway Substation;
- Line 3700 rebuild Phase III;
- Rule 20A undergrounding project;
- Additional projects, time permitting.

9. One representative of each party is encouraged to participate in the Proceeding Tour and should contact Dan Marsh (Dan.Marsh@libertyutilities.com) no later than July 15, 2019 to indicate intent to participate.

10. Liberty Utilities (CalPeco Electric) LLC is directed to file a short report summarizing tour highlights no later than August 5, 2019.

11. The proceeding schedule is updated as follows:

Event	Date
Cal PA Testimony Served	July 23, 2019
Intervenor Testimony Served	August 5, 2019
Public Participation Hearings	July 24, 25, 26 2019
Proceeding Tour of Liberty Facilities	July 26, 2019
Rebuttal Testimony Served	August 23, 2019
<i>Tentative</i> Settlement Agreement Conference	August 26 – September 13, 2019
Evidentiary Hearings	October 7 - 11, 2019
Opening Brief	November 8, 2019
Reply Brief	November 22, 2019

Dated May 29, 2019, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ CATHLEEN A. FOGEL

Cathleen A. Fogel
Administrative Law Judge